

## Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SSO-00 /016 W

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O 221102Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 243

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASAF, PDIP, BU

SUBJECT: LIABILITY FOR ACCIDENT INVOLVING DIPLOMATIC PERSONNAL

1. DUTCH EMBASSY HAS A MESSY CASE ON ITS HANDS INVOLVING ONE OF THEIR OFFICERS WHO RAN OVER A BULGARIAN WOMAN. SHE IS ON THE CRITICAL LIST AND MAY NOT SURVIVE. MEANWHILE QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN RAISED ABOUT THE EXTENT OF CIVIL LIABILITY, AND THE DUTCH AMBASSADOR HAS TURNED TO US INQUIRING IF WE HAVE ANY PRECEDENT THAT MIGHT HELP THEM IN HANDLING THIS QUESTION.

2. IT OCCURS TO ME THAT SINCE AMBASSADOR NATHANIEL DAVIS WAS INVOLVED IN A SIMILAR SITUATION HERE SOME YEARS AGO, THE DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE A FILE FROM WHICH IT APPEARS WHETHER ANY EX GRATIA PAYMENT WAS MADE TO THE RELATIVES OF THE VICTIM. (LIABILITY INSURANCE, WHICH IS COMPULSORY HERE AND MUST BE CARRIED WITH THE BULGARIAN INSURANCE COMPANY, APPEARS TO BE VERY LIMITED.)

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE REPLY BY IMMEDIATE HOW THAT CASE, OR OTHER SIMILAR CASES IN EE COUNTRIES, HAVE BEEN HANDLED BY US. THE DUTCH AMBASSADOR'S PROBLEM IS NOT, AT LEAST SO FAR, WITH THE BULGARIAN AUTHORITIES. THERE IS NO QUESTION BUT THAT HIS OFFICER IS NOT CRIMINALLY LIABLE. THE QUESTION IS WHETHER IT HAS BEEN CUSTOMARY FOR US, OR WHETHER IT WAS DONE IN THE DAVIS CASE, TO OFFER THE FAMILY SOME COMPENSATION. IF SO, WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE LEARNING WHETHER USG CONTRIBUTED TO THE EX GRATIA PAYMENT.

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HERZ

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, ACCIDENT INSURANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchant0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975SOFIA02056  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750327-0852  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchant0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 MAY 2003 by lzenbel0>; APPROVED <29 DEC 2003 by buchant0>  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** LIABILITY FOR ACCIDENT INVOLVING DIPLOMATIC PERSONNAL  
**TAGS:** ASAF, PDIP, AINF, BU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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